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Ecological traits of water beetles in a karstic river from the Eastern Mediterranean region

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ABSTRACT

This study presents new insights into ecological traits of water beetles in lotic karst habitats of the Eastern Mediterranean. The aims of the study were to investigate population aspects and ecological traits of water beetles. Data were collected monthly during one year from a large perennial river showing current anthropogenic disturbance. Altogether 11 families, 23 genera and 31 species were identified. Elmidae were the most diverse and abundant family, and the genus *Elmis* predominated at all sampling sites. The distribution of water beetles